JOYS & CONCERNS

WHEN THEY CANNOT JOIN US, WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Mary Jane Barlow. Rosie Strang.

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED: If you or others are hospitalized, please let us know. Due to privacy laws, the hospitals may be unable to provide your information.

BIRTHDAYS: 11/1 Timothy Blazek, Joseph Ryder, Megan Smiley, Cherie Thompson **11/2** Jim Weems **11/3** Diane Stevenson, Barbara Wagner **11/5** Connie Proffitt **11/6** Mary Taylor **11/7** Bill Brause **11/8** Jake Stark, James Tow **11/9** Jovi Healy **11/11** Stan Letscher **11/13** Harlan LeClere, Chad Proctor

ANNIVERSARIES: 11/11/1977 Steve & Sue White

SYMPATHIES ARE EXTENDED to the family of Karen Stewart, who passed away November 4th surrounded by her loving family. We do not have any funeral arrangements at this time. Please keep Lisa Alexander, Cindy and John Monroe, and Susan Baker, along with the rest of her family in your prayers.

INSIGHT ADULT EDUCATION

Join us next Sunday when **Sean Ulmer,** Executive Director, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, speaks about *Visual Arts and the Community: A Symbiotic Relationship.*

IT'S STAR TREE SEASON!

Stars available **TODAY** and November 15, and 22.
We're partnering with **Foundation 2 Crisis Services** to bring Christmas joy to young adults who may otherwise go without gifts.
Here's how you can help:

- **Pick a star** from the Star Tree in the Gathering Space.
- **Shop the wish list** on your star.
- **Return your unwrapped gifts** in a gift bag, along with your star, by **November 29**.

Prefer to give financially? Donations are welcome, and Mary and Carrie will shop on your behalf! Each star represents an opportunity to make someone's Christmas brighter. Thank you for helping us share the joy of the season!

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Sunday, November 22 Following Worship
Thinking First Pres might feel like home? Come pull up a chair! Join us after worship on November 22 for a light lunch and casual conversation about who we are, what it means to be Presbyterian, and how you can get involved.
No commitment, just good conversation, questions, and a chance to meet some of our Session. Let Pastor Heather know if you'll be joining us so we can save you a spot!

GIVING THANKS TOGETHER: COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Monday, November 23 | First Lutheran Church, 1000 3rd Ave SE
Join friends and neighbors from across our community for an evening of fellowship and worship as we give thanks together!
5:00 p.m | Combined Choir Run-Through
5:30 p.m.|Community Potluck : bring a covered dish to share
6:30 p.m |Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship with Holy Communion

PITCHING CAMP FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

As part of our *Straight Paths: Walking in Faith Together* stewardship journey, we've pitched a resource tent to collect food bank donations. Every step of this trail is a chance to give, bring non-perishable items each week and help us fill the tent.
Our goal: a tent completely full by **November 15, Pledge Sunday.**

FPC BOOK GROUP | November 16 at 6:00 pm *(note the new time)*

Location: Allsop Room at the new Busse Branch of the Public Library, 1845 Sandberg Lane. Sandberg Lane is a new road just off 20th Avenue and Edgewood Road SW. Please bring your own non-alcoholic (library rules) drink; treats will be provided.
Book: *The Feather Thief* by Kirk W. Johnson

FPC FOOD GROUP | December 3 | 6:00 pm

Pregame Brew & Chew, 588 Boyson Rd NE. Please **RSVP by November 30th** to Carolyn Horton at 319-899-0255 or horton6902@msn.com All are welcome for food and fellowship!

CHECK OUT OUR GALLERY!

Our gallery has been getting a little extra crafty lately! First, Melissa Randall shared needlepoint celebrating five generations of her family's homes, who were all members of First Pres. Now, it's Martha's turn to show off some beautiful quilts from her longtime collection. We love seeing the talents our members share!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday November 8
9:00 am Nursery & Insight
10:00 Worship & LiveStream
10:15 am Sunday School
11:00 am Fellowship
SEMP SCHEDULE

Tuesday November 10
4:00 pm Care Commission
5:30 pm Deacons

Wednesday November 11
2:00 pm Mahjong
5:30 pm Agape Kids & Middle School Youth Group
6:00 pm Bell Choir
7:00 pm Chancel Choir & High School Youth Group

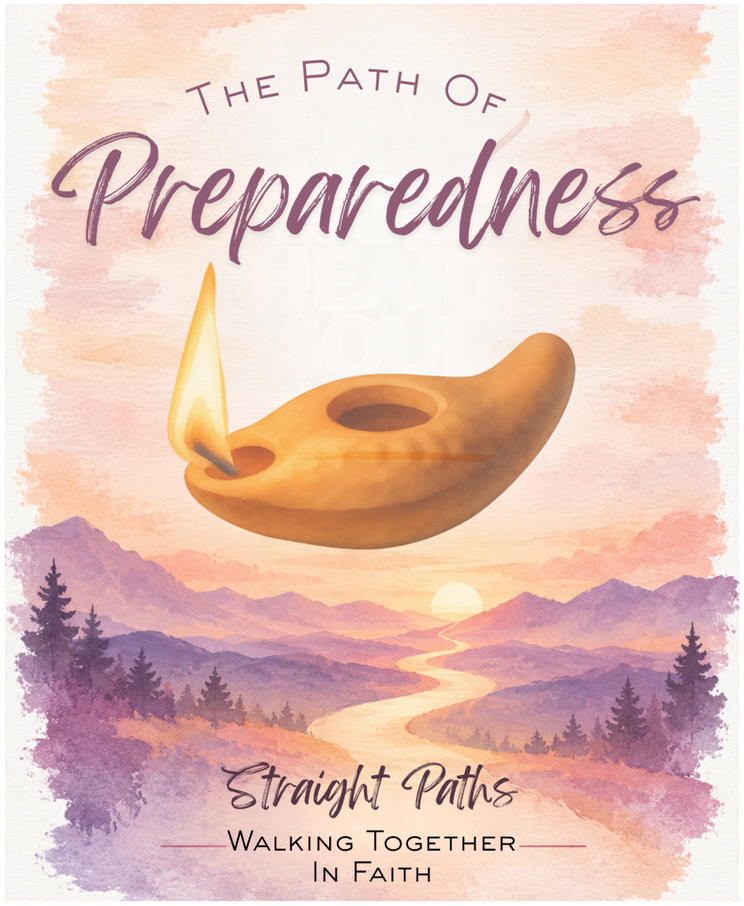
Sunday November 15
Pledge Sunday
9:00 am Nursery & Insight
10:00 Worship & LiveStream
10:15 am Sunday School
11:00 am Lunch for Heather's Return
SEMP SCHEDULE

You're not just visiting. You are welcome! Scan this QR code to check in, explore ways to connect and share any prayer requests or pastoral needs.

First Presbyterian Church

Cedar Rapids • Iowa

November 8, 2026 | 10:00 am



Welcome to worship! If this is your first time here or your fortieth, we want you to feel at home.

Here are a few items that may help you as you worship with us. **Bold print** indicates where the congregation speaks together.

An asterisk* invites you to rise in body or spirit.

Need a quiet spot for you and your child during the service? We have a nursery open on the second floor to welcome you.

Please sign the friendship pad so we may take note of your presence and you may greet your neighbors by name.

310 5th St SE | fpccr.org

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *"Carillon"* Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)

Worship begins as you enter the sanctuary. The prelude provides time for quiet, personal preparation for the worship of God.

As we prepare for worship, if there are prayer requests you would like lifted up today in worship and/or brought to the attention of Pastors Heather or Anna, please fill out a prayer request card and place it in the available baskets before worship or during the passing of the peace.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT *Hear the Glad Sound* Stan Pethel

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We come from many roads, carrying the joys and burdens of the week behind us.

God meets us here and calls us forward in faith.

We come learning to trust at every turn.

God gives us grace for today and strength for the road ahead.

So let us tend the life of faith through prayer and praise, through listening and love.

Let us worship the God who walks with us all our days.

***HYMN** *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers* #362

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Faithful God, you call us to lives of trust, attention, and love, but too often we are distracted. We neglect the things that nourish our spirits. We hurry past the people who need our care. We hold tightly to what we have and forget the freedom of generosity. We wait until tomorrow to practice the compassion, courage, and faithfulness to which you call us today.

Forgive us, O God. Turn our attention again toward you. Teach us to tend what you have entrusted to us, to walk faithfully with one another, and to practice your way of love.

time of silent confession

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news: God's grace does not run dry. When we lose our way, God calls us home. When we stumble, God raises us up. When we begin again, God walks beside us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free for new life.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

During the passing of the peace, we share signs of peace and welcome others in our pews. Please turn to those around you as we celebrate God's peace among us.

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

We invite children to come to the front at this time for their own special message. At the conclusion of children's time they may return to the pews. Nursery is available for children kindergarten age and younger.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

In the beginning was the Word,

And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joshua 24: 1-3 & 14-15 (p 206)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Matthew 25:1-13 (p 860)

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,

Thanks be to God!

SERMON *The Path of Preparedness* Rev. Heather Hayes

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

***HYMN** *Be Thou My Vision* #450

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Light of the World* Karen Marolli

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Generous God, all that we have and all that we are come from you. Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and as practices of our trust. Use them to strengthen your church, serve our neighbors, welcome the stranger, seek justice, and bear your light into the world. As we offer these gifts, keep forming us into generous people, ready to follow wherever you lead. Amen.

WE LEAVE TO SERVE THE LORD

***HYMN** *Lord, You Give the Great Commission (vs. 1, 2, 5)* #298

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *Go Forth!*

POSTLUDE *Recessional* Christopher Tambling (1964-2015)

Leading In Worship

Pastors | Rev. Heather Hayes
Liturgist | Cynthia Burdakin
Organist | Ted Cronbaugh
Director of Music | Fred Kiser
Chancel Choir
Streaming Director | Parker Garretson
Ushers | Tom & Priscilla Polehna, Steve & Sue White